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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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BULLETIN NO. 32

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Situation in the Prague Diplomatic Corps and Provisions Made for the Corps of Diplomats -- Worked out by JECNY

(For information of chiefs of mission or deputies, possibly the diplomatic worker engaged in matters of protocol)

1. Attitudes of Members of the Diplomatic Corps to Czechoslovak Official Representatives

The members of the Prague diplomatic corps enjoy wide opportunity of direct contact with Czechoslovak representatives. Apart from opportunities to meet and discuss matters during visits of protocol upon arrival or departure, request of members of the corp of diplomats for direct negotiation of important political, economic, or cultural questions with Czechoslovak representatives are granted in justified cases. Similarly, ample opportunity for direct contact and conversation is afforded by various social affairs. Czechoslovak representatives create good conditions for developing contacts with other countries and directly contribute toward this development.

In harmony with the tasks of our foreign policy, the widest opportunity for direct contact with the highest party and state officials is enjoyed by diplomats of socialist states, who also make ample use of this opportunity, in general. Also, newly appointed chiefs of missions of friendly nations are invited to visit Slovakia by the chairman of the Slovak Board of Commissioners. Similarly, some representatives of neutral countries and non-socialist countries were able to value the opportunities granted them. An example of this is the social activity of the former ambassadors of India and Indonesia. On the other hand, some representatives of capitalist countries do not consider it important to value the given opportunities and good will shown and did not expand on these contacts which would contribute to improving mutual relations. They also did not strive for the reciprocal position of their government vis-a-vis Czechoslovak diplomatic representatives in their countries. Thus, for example, in order to utilize contact with our official representatives to solve the most important questions, these diplomats show, in some cases, an effort to negotiate questions which by their very nature, cannot be considered to be basic political problems.

Members of the diplomatic corps from western capitalist nations showed an effort to negotiate some questions without the intermediate service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, primarily in the fields of culture and scientific contacts. There is also the general tendency among Western diplomats to engage in direct contact with cultural and scientific workers, and to extract this kind of contact from the control and supervision of the appropriate ministry. These tendencies show up occasionally also with other specialized components of our public life. Western diplomats are interested in

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arranging closer social and personal contacts primarily with bourgeois elements among the intelligentsia. Despite the intervention of the appropriate departments of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovak and the Ministry of Education and Culture, the lack of discipline among some members of our artistic and scientific circles in questions of social contact with these diplomats persist. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will, in collaboration with the appropriate components, attempt to ensure that the desired status in this kind of thing develops and that the efforts of Western diplomats to utilize social contacts to influence a part of our intelligentsia will come to naught.

A reflection of the negative attitude of the representatives of some capitalist countries toward socialist countries can be seen in the undisciplined breeches of protocol and the coarse discourtesy showing up, for example, when these diplomats fail to respond to social invitations issued by the head of state or by the government of the Czechoslovak Republic and instead pass on the invitations to their deputies or simply fail to attend without excuse.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will make an effort to continue to provide appropriate opportunities for effective and direct contact of Czechoslovak representatives with the diplomatic corps.

2. Current Status of Diplomatic Representation in Prague

The diplomatic representation of foreign nations located in Prague testifies, both by its volume as well as its level, to the important standing of Czechoslovakia in international politics, economics, and culture as well as to the continued growth of Czechoslovak prestige.

Czechoslovakia now has diplomatic representatives from 46 states, of which 19 states have representatives of ambassadorial rank. These are all the states of the socialist camp, the Western Powers, India, Indonesia, the United Arab Republic, Japan, and Yugoslavia. Recently, both Czechoslovak and Cambodia raised their representative offices to the status of embassy. Twenty-one countries are represented by envoys, and six countries, namely Canada, Greece, Israel, Uruguay, Mexico and Yemen are represented for long period by charges d' affaires ad interim.

The significant status of Czechoslovakia is attested to also by the fact that a number of members of the Prague diplomatic corps are simultaneously accredited in other countries. The ambassador of the Albanian People's Republic is also accredited in Austria; the ambassador of the Mongolian People's Republic is accredited in Albania and Bulgaria; the ambassador of Afghanistan is also accredited in Poland; the envoy of Denmark and Sweden is accredited in Hungary and the envoy of Finland is accredited in Austria. The former Indian ambassador was also accredited to Rumania; the former ambassador of Indonesia was accredited to Poland, and the former Argentine envoy was accredited to Hungary; the Yemen envoy to the USSR.

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On the other hand, some envoys are accredited in Czechoslovakia who maintain their headquarters outside the territory of Czechoslovakia. These include the envoys of Burma, Ceylon, Cambodia, Pakistan, and the Sudan, who maintain headquarters in Moscow; the envoy of Iceland, who maintains headquarters in Oslo, and the envoy of Norway who has his headquarters in Vienna. In these countries, Czechoslovakia is represented by envoys who, with the exception of Iceland, maintain their residents in the country of representation.

Some countries do not maintain diplomatic representation in Czechoslovakia of equal rank as that maintained by Czechoslovakia. Their offices are of a lower rank or, in case of offices outside of Czechoslovakia, of the same rank. These are Burma, Ceylon, Indonesia, Iceland, Yemen, Cambodia, Canada, Mexico, Pakistan, Greece, the Sudan, Uruguay, and Norway. Countries which have no diplomatic representation in Czechoslovakia but to which Czechoslovakia maintains either direct or indirect contact included Iraq, Guinea, Ethiopia (whose representative however has already received approval for coming to Prague), Luxemburg, Bolivia, the Union of South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand.

The fact that we maintain diplomatic representation in some countries without entertaining the diplomatic representation of those countries in Czechoslovakia, or the fact that we have the representative who is on a higher plane in matters of protocol, is based in Czechoslovak political interests and requirements.

The importance attached to maintaining diplomatic representation in Czechoslovakia is attested to by the fact that vacated positions of diplomats are very shortly reoccupied and that approval or rather acceptance of replacements is requested before the departure of the incumbent or immediately following his departure (more recently Hungary, Rumania, India, Argentina, France, the UAR, Italy, Iran, and Pakistan). Cases where the reoccupation of a vacated position of a diplomat could have been anticipated but which has not yet materialized include Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, and the Sudan.

Last year, as well as this year, changes in diplomatic personnel resulted mostly from non-political reasons. An exception was the recall of the Israeli envoy (the legation was directed by the charge d' affaires on a reciprocal basis) and the recall of the Norwegian envoy, whose duties were transferred to the legation in Vienna. Changes in diplomatic personalities of France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Iran, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Rumania, Greece, the UAR, the Sudan, and Pakistan were more or less in the nature of normal rotation, with the persons involved in some cases going on to more important posts (for example, India, Indonesia, Yugoslavia, Pakistan, Greece, the UAR, etc). In the case of envoys of Argentina and Austria, the obvious reason for their transfer was the small scope of their activity, and the envoy of Brazil was recalled for disciplinary reasons; the ambassador of the Korean People's Republic for reasons of health.

3. Status of Some Diplomatic Representative Offices in the Diplomatic Corps of Prague

The mutual relationship between diplomatic representatives of both world camps is correct. The dean of the diplomatic corps, be it the French ambassador or the

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ambassador of the Chinese People's Republic, does not encounter any difficulties resulting from mutual recognition or non-recognition. Fairly frequent personal contact can be seen even between chiefs of missions whose countries do not mutually recognize each other or do not have mutual diplomatic representation. Thus, the non-attention shown by some diplomats to the Chinese People's Republic is gradually receding, particularly when they must, after all, recognize the ambassador of the Chinese People's Republic as the dean of the diplomatic corps. In their attitudes toward the Chinese ambassador, who by his very appearance commands a certain degree of respect and seriousness, some diplomatic offices are developing their own initiative. For example, the Japanese ambassador's attempts to become personally acquainted with the dean of the diplomatic corps.

The relationships between our friends and representatives of capitalist nations and toward representatives of non-socialist nations of the peace camp show some discrepancies. The example of the consideration given to social contacts, which corresponds to the position of the USSR as one of the great powers and the importance of the Soviet Union in the camp of socialist countries, is the contact of the USSR ambassador, which is valued by all members of the diplomatic corps and independently sought after. The ambassador of the GDR initiates and utilizes social contacts and utilizes various opportunities for instituting personal contact with representatives of countries in which the GDR does not have diplomatic representation. With this in mind, he organizes suitable social events and is continuing in the tradition of his predecessor in this sector. Also, the ambassador of the Korean People's Republic, who has been in Prague but a short while, initiates and intensely utilizes social functions to become acquainted with and contact diplomats who do not reject such personal contacts. The ambassador of the Bulgarian People's Republic has also gained a good position within the diplomatic corps.

Less activity is shown in this regard by the ambassadors of Albania, Mongolia, and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. This factor is obviously due to their lack of experience in diplomatic work.

The diplomats of some Asiatic and African nations very vividly show their friendly relations with representatives of the socialist camp; they even participate in those functions which are avoided by representatives of Western capitalist countries and frequently stay away from functions organized by Western diplomats. Examples of this behavior are their participation at the ceremonious presentation of the opera "Libuse", arranged by the Central Committee of the Communist Party and by the Czechoslovak government to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the February victory, or their participation in welcoming or farewell ceremonies involving party and government delegations of countries of the socialist camp on the occasion of such visits to or departures from Czechoslovakia. Of the countries of Latin America, the Mexican Charge d' Affaires shows a particularly positive attitude towards Czechoslovakia.

4. Excursions and Social Events Arranged for the Diplomatic Corps Within the Last Few Years

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs attempts to assist members of the diplomatic corps in becoming acquainted with the results of building socialism in Czechoslovakia, with the cultural wealth of the country, its historic significance, and its natural beauty. This activity of the ministry is considered to be an effort to help the

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diplomats become acquainted with the country of their assignments and is valued as an expression of courtesy towards the diplomatic corps as well as a fulfillment of the promise made by the president of Czechoslovakia who, during the initial diplomatic audience of a new representative of a foreign country usually recommends that the diplomat should, with the assistance of the ministry, not forget to become fully acquainted with our republic.

Assistance in arranging excursions and in becoming acquainted with Czechoslovakia primarily concerns representative offices of friendly countries and non-socialist countries of the peace camp.

Diplomatic workers and chiefs of mission of countries of the socialist camp have ample opportunities to become acquainted with the efforts and life of all segments of Czechoslovakia. Visits to enterprises, institutes, and collective farms in various parts of the republic including Slovakia, are arranged for them. Last year, in addition to purely official visits to Slovakia and to purely official programs connected with such visits, there were excursions to widely scattered places by about twelve persons (including four ambassadors and one Charge d' Affaires) as well as visits to industrial enterprises in Plzen, Ostrava, Koprivnice, Gottwaldov, Rybárpole, Bratislava, Partizanske, Zl. Moravce, Kosice, agricultural cooperatives in the vicinity of Prague and in Slovakia, one local National Committee, the Institute for Welding Technology, etc. Some enterprises and agricultural cooperatives sometimes invite chiefs of friendly diplomatic missions on their own. In such cases the Ministry of Foreign Affairs acts as an intermediary, and in this regard its practice resembles the practice current in friendly countries.

In order to facilitate closer contact between diplomats of friendly nations and Czechoslovak representatives and workers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as some of the other ministries, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from time to time arranges various friendly meetings with heads of diplomatic missions, as well as other diplomatic workers of representative offices of countries of the socialist camp.

Assistance in organizing excursions in Prague and outside of Prague for private purposes is also rendered to diplomatic representatives of other countries, even though in smaller scope. Thus, in 1958, excursions were arranged for eleven persons (four ambassadors and envoys and three charge d' affaires were included in this number) and visits were made to enterprises in Gottwaldov, Dvur Kralove, Komoice, Plzen, Karlovy Vary, and in Slovakia; further, various agricultural cooperatives were visited, as was the Comenius University in Bratislava, various housing projects, the Agricultural Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, etc.

In recent years, the efforts of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to accommodate the Prague diplomatic corps, as far as official participation in political, cultural and sporting events is concerned, as well as excursions and trips, receptions, hunts, etc. were considerable in comparison with the efforts made to take care of the diplomatic corps in some other countries. Of the most important functions to

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which the diplomatic corps in Prague was invited, one could cite the 1 May celebrations, the celebrations of the 9 May national holiday, the opening session of the national assembly, the inauguration of the "Prague-Spring Festival", the festivities at Straznice, film festivals, the Brno Engineering Fair, the Day of the Czechoslovak Air Force, the evenings before several anniversaries, Czechoslovak Army Day, social events and concerts held upon official occasions, etc. In addition to these official functions, the diplomatic corps was also invited to a number of other social functions such as the showing of films, discussions, hunts, and many smaller affairs, particularly those arranged for the benefit of employees of one or another diplomatic representative office or for a smaller number of diplomatic offices combined.

Among the many excursions and trips were, for example, the trip with Soviet diplomats to Northeast Bohemia; the steamer trip to the Slapy Dam with friendly diplomats; excursion to the Barrandov Film Studios; to the hospital in Podoli; a trip to the Bethlehem Chapel; excursions to official openings; attendance at the annual fish catching event on the Rozsberk Pond; an excursion to the exhibition entitled "Ancient History of Czechoslovakia;" to the exhibition of archives documents held at the Prague Castle, etc.

5. Activities Anticipated During 1959

In 1959 it is anticipated that a number of perennial functions will be repeated, as well as some functions organized by other offices or other organization and for which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will simply pass on invitations to the diplomatic corps.

Among the functions initiated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs thus far are the excursion of the diplomatic corps to the exhibition of Soviet artificial satellites; a discussion with Soviet diplomats; a debate for diplomats of the socialist camp; arrangements were made for the diplomatic corps to attend a session of the National Assembly; assistance was rendered for official visits to the world ice hockey championship games; an excursion was organized for Soviet diplomats to attend the exhibition of subversive activities perpetrated against Czechoslovakia; the diplomatic corps was invited to an extraordinary performance of the "Magic Lantern", and arrangements were made for diplomats to attend the "Prague-Spring music festival.

During the course of the year, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will assist members of the diplomatic corps in visiting the Brno Trade Fair, the Straznice festivities, and on such occasions as Czechoslovak Air Force Day. Furthermore, the ministry plans a musical evening for the entire diplomatic corps to be held at the Theater of Music and a discussion to be held in Davle; it is considering a mass excursion of the diplomatic corps to agricultural cooperatives and tractor stations; it is considering having an artistic performance for the diplomatic corps at the Ceskin Palace; it is considering a mass excursion of the diplomats, for example, to Cesky Krumlov where it will be possible to put on a command performance in a theater which has historic value and is the only one of its kind in Europe. It will also be

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possible to organize excursions for some diplomats to enterprises located outside of Prague -- these trips could be connected with inspections of the towns and environs. Another item on the program for the entire diplomatic corps is perhaps the showing of some new Czech film at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or maybe a concert to be held at the Bertramka. All of these suggestions and proposals are worked out ahead of time in such a manner as to permit one event in every quarter to be devoted exclusively to the Soviet Embassy, one event for the diplomatic offices of Socialist countries and one event for all diplomatic offices, as well as to provide adequate opportunity for discussion. In addition, smaller excursions will not be forgotten. Among the less significant events, thought is being given to better and more frequent utilization of the resort of Davle, extending invitations for theater performances, concerts, and excursions to various parts of Czechoslovakia where such events are not connected with great expenditures, etc.

In organizing social contacts, social events, and excursions, a good deal of attention will be devoted to the selection of the more suitable forms of these contacts and the organization of functions for the diplomatic corps will be accomplished in a manner which would assist in cementing friendly relations with diplomats of the Socialist camp, in improving relations with diplomats of Capitalist nations, and which would assist in creating better conditions for the solution of mutual problems, as well as help to gain better understanding of the creative results of our people and foster the concept of the primacy of the Socialist order.

Greater efforts will be made to ensure that the care devoted to the diplomatic corps corresponds to the needs of the general international situation, to mutual relations with foreign countries, and to Czechoslovak political goals vis-a-vis these nations. Evaluations will be made to see how Capitalist diplomats will utilize the opportunities given them for improving mutual contacts, as well as the type of opportunities for social contacts granted our diplomats abroad. In this direction, it would certainly be helpful if all foreign posts were to send reports on their experiences to the diplomatic protocol department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which would facilitate the fulfillment of this intention.

The Czechoslovak National Holiday in 1959

(Worked out by GREGOROVA; approved by JECNY)

(For the information of Chief of Mission, his Deputy, and the diplomatic worker entrusted with affairs of protocol)

The Diplomatic Protocol Department has worked out a review of the progress of ceremonies celebrating the Czechoslovak national holiday in 1959 from the point of view of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including such items as participation of the diplomatic corps in individual functions in Prague, transmission of congratulatory messages by representatives of foreign nations to Czechoslovak officials and, finally, a review of the celebrations conducted at Czechoslovak diplomatic posts abroad. Because there was interest in rapid processing of this information, the

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diplomatic protocol department was forced to proceed, for the most part, from fragmentary telegraphic messages which contained the names of only the highest officials who participated, without evaluating the reason for their participation. Some foreign posts (Djakarta, Karachi, Hanoi, Rangoon, and Tokyo) have thus far, not responded by telegram, despite repeated reminders, nor by courier, regarding participation at the reception and are consequently not included in this report. Some other diplomatic posts responded to the requests merely by transmitting the number of participants without giving any detailed information (Moscow, Peking, Hanoi, and Sofia). A detailed evaluation of the celebrations of the Czechoslovak national holiday held at foreign posts will be accomplished following the arrival of all reports, and will be broken down for each individual foreign post separately. The evaluation, which will be achieved by the Territorial Department with the cooperation of the Department of Diplomatic Protocol will serve the appropriate foreign posts as a directive for conducting similar celebrations in 1960 and will assist the diplomatic protocol department in submitting suggestions for participation of Czechoslovak diplomats in social functions of their subject countries.

Participation in Czechoslovak National Holiday Celebrations in Prague

The participation of diplomats of a foreign state at the celebration of the national holiday must be considered in the light of a political act which expresses the attitude of that country and the person involved towards the country of his accreditation.

On the other hand, non-participation, and what is more, unexcused absence, documents the negative attitude, discourtesy, or at least the lack of seriousness from which certain conclusions must be drawn, particularly if it is repeated. The participation or non-participation of representatives of foreign countries at the Czechoslovak national holiday celebrations will be evaluated in this light and conclusions will be drawn from their attitudes with emphasis on their decorum on other official occasions.

This year, as in previous years, the Prague diplomatic corps was invited on the occasion of the Czechoslovak national holiday on 8 May, to attend a concert at the National Theater; on 9 May the diplomat corps was invited to the military revue, as well as to an official reception held at the Castle. Diplomatic representatives of foreign countries who maintain headquarters outside of the territory of Czechoslovakia were also invited to all of these functions. Of the latter, only the Burmese and Pakistani envoys accepted the invitations. The Norwegian and Icelandic envoys did not respond to the invitations; however, the Cambodian Charge d' Affaires arrived from Moscow, although he had not been invited, since the invitation had been made out only to accredited ambassadors and envoys.

All those invited to the 8 May concert at the National Theater were invited to attend with their wives. The invitation was not utilized by the Belgian, Indonesian, Greek, and United States officers. The invitations were accepted by Italy, Uruguay, and Japan; however, the Charge d' Affaires of these embassies or legations did not attend; the Japanese Charge d' Affaires sent another diplomatic worker to represent him.

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Again, all diplomats and their wives were invited to attend the military review on 9 May, along with embassy counselors of friendly nations, all military and air attaches and their deputies, as well as some Soviet diplomats. This invitation was again not utilized by the Ambassadors of the United States and the Greek Charge d' Affaires. The United States air attache, Teberg, and the French military attache, Ravinel, filmed the military review with such ardor that they completely ignored both the playing of the Czechoslovak national anthem, as well as the passing of the colors, which they failed to greet. When reminded by representatives of the Ministry of National Defense, the gentlemen in question reacted in an annoyed manner and with displeasure. The Ministries of Defense of both countries involved will be informed about this case in a suitable manner.

Invitations to the reception organized by the President at the Castle were issued to all chiefs of missions, all Soviet diplomats, and all military and air attaches of all countries and their wives. Confirmations were not sought for the attendance of these persons ahead of time. Of the chief of missions, the Charge d' Affaires of Greece did not attend; the Japanese Ambassador sent the first secretary of the embassy in his place without sending an excuse, even though it was determined that during the period the reception was held the ambassador was in Prague.

At all events organized to celebrate the Czechoslovak national holiday the absence of the Greek charge is noted, a fact which can be considered a deliberate discourtesy in view of his many years of service in Czechoslovakia. The displeasure of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding his behaviour will be communicated to him by the chief of the Diplomatic Protocol Department. Representatives of Italy and Uruguay will be told of the surprise regarding their breach of discipline for accepting invitations but not attending the performance at the National Theater. The Japanese Ambassador will be reminded that in case he wishes to send another diplomatic worker to represent him, he should telephone the Diplomatic Protocol Department in advance. Those persons who, for any reason, fail to attend any of the celebrations will receive special attention next time, particularly regarding their participating in other official functions organized by the Czechoslovak government or by the President and in case their attitude towards these functions should show a demonstrative character, appropriate steps will be taken to point out their behaviour to them.

Congratulatory Messages Sent By Representatives of Foreign Nations to Czechoslovak Officials

By 9 May, Czechoslovak officials had received congratulatory messages from 46 nations. Of the countries with which Czechoslovakia maintains diplomatic relations and to which Czechoslovakia sent congratulatory messages on the occasions of their national holidays last year, such messages were not forthcoming from Australia, Ghana, Ireland, Yemen, the Union of South Africa, Canada (where the congratulatory message was sent by personal letter of the Czechoslovak Ambassador), Columbia, Liberia, Libya, Nepal, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, the United States (where, according to existing practice in the past few years, the Czechoslovak Ambassador has expressed the congratulations of the government and people's of Czechoslovakia to the government and peoples of the United States), and Great Britain.

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were congratulations were also dispatched by a personal letter of the Czechoslovak Ambassador. In comparison with the congratulatory messages arriving on the occasion of 9 May 1958, this year messages arrived from Bolivia, Brazil, Guiana, Iraq, Morocco, Tunisia, and from the Israeli president who, in 1958, sent a congratulatory message only to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The message from Cambodia did not come from the Cambodian Prime Minister as last year, but from the Cambodian King. Next year, these facts will lead to the taking of appropriate measures for our side and we shall not send congratulatory messages to those countries who have thus far not reacted to our messages or who have ceased exchanging congratulatory messages, where these measures are not mitigated by other important circumstances connected by actual relations with that country.

Celebrations of the Czechoslovak National Holiday Abroad

Maximum attention was devoted to the Czechoslovak national holiday in the USSR and in the people's democracies. Thus, in the USSR, this occasion was marked by a number of official ceremonies of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Society, not only in Moscow but in many other cities. In Peking, Sofia, Bucharest, Warsaw, and Tirana, ceremonies were arranged at which political officials spoke; in Budapest the opera "Bartered Bride" was performed. The friendly press, radio, and television, devoted a considerable amount of attention to Czechoslovakia, as well as to the Czechoslovak national holiday. In most of the above countries, the television or radio carried a speech by the Czechoslovak ambassador. Nine daily newspapers in four countries carried articles by Czechoslovak public officials. In the case of East Germany, publicity was less favorable because of other more pressing political problems and because the possibilities were somewhat limited as a result of several days of vacation during which the newspapers did not appear. Among the non-socialist nations of the peace camp, mention must be made of interest shown by the press and radio of the Sudan, Guinea, and Afghanistan. Similarly, some Latin American countries arranged programs of Czechoslovak music in their radio transmissions, and in Argentina the Czechoslovak Ambassador gave a speech. On the other hand, the Yugoslav official organ Borba, as well as the local press in Zagreb, attacked Czechoslovakia in inflammatory articles containing coarse personal attacks against Czechoslovak government officials, thus, to a considerable extent influencing participation at the Czechoslovak reception.

The majority of foreign posts arranged their receptions in honor of the Czechoslovak national holiday on 8 May, since arranging receptions on Saturday would have considerably influenced participation. In preparing for the event, emphasis was placed on a dignified celebration of the Czechoslovak national holiday abroad and efforts to obtain the participation of the highest officials were underscored.

In the USSR and in the People's Democracies, the Czechoslovak receptions were attended by high-ranking political and government officials. Thus, in Ulan Bator, the reception was attended by all members and candidate members of the Politbureau; in Sofia, by seven members and two candidate members of the Politbureau. Tirana, Budapest, and Hanoi claimed attendance by five members of the Politbureau. In

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P'yongyang, the reception was attended by Kim L Song (for the first time in several years), his deputies, and four members of the chairmanship of the Central Committee of the Korean Communist Party. Attendance at the reception in Bucharest, included all members and candidate members of the political bureau with exception of Comrade Moghioros, who was ill. The Politbureau members remained particularly long. In Warsaw, four members of the Politbureau attended the reception; even though, as in past years, Comrade Gomulka did not attend, participation at our reception was the greatest, with the exception of the receptions organized by the Soviet government and by the Chinese. In Peking Chou En-Lai visited the Czechoslovak reception, accompanied by two other members of the Politbureau and a number of important personalities. Only in the GDR was there a drop in attendance by the highest officials. The attendance of only two members and two candidate members of the Politbureau at the Czechoslovak reception is explained partially by the illness of Comrade Grotewohl and partially by the circumstances that the reception in Berlin was organized on 9 May, that is to say on Saturday.

Considerable participation of official personages was noted in receptions organized by Czechoslovak diplomatic offices in non-socialist countries of the peace area. Thus, in New Delhi where a similar reception was organized by the seven members of the government, which however, is fewer than last year. Many members of the government and official personages of high rank attended receptions in Conakry, Baghdad, Kabul, Rangoon, Khartoum, and Addis Ababa. In Cairo, where the reception was attended by one member of the government, the participation of the highest officials remained on the same level as that of last year but the influence of the current political situation made itself felt in a drop in attendance, particularly of the "middle cadres", who are careful in their contacts with the People's Democracies. A similar situation was noted in Damascus, where the reception was attended by two ministers. Participation in Rangoon and Colombo included the Governor General and only one other minister; this participation, compared to last year and compared to receptions of other diplomatic posts there is relatively small. In Beirut, not one minister participated in the receptions due to the meeting of the cabinet which, compared to last year, is surprising, since last year the Prime Minister and six members of the government did participate. In Beirut, the participation of members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other central organs of the government was considerable.

Special attention must be devoted to the celebration of the Czechoslovak National Holiday in Yugoslavia. The participation of officials at our reception in Belgrade was limited to two members of the government and a relatively small number of other officials, a fact which can be regarded as a discriminating measure in view of Yugoslav participation at receptions organized by other diplomatic posts. On 8 May, the day of the reception in Yugoslavia, the Yugoslav official press launched a deliberate attack against our officials and thus contributed substantially to limiting the participation of un-official Yugoslav guests, which dropped from the 334 who were invited to an actual attendance of less than 50. The reception of the Consulate in Zabreg fared in a similar manner; although the discrimination showed in a smaller number and a lower level of the Yugoslav officials in attendance it did not affect

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the participation of other invited guests from cultural and economic circles. It is also worth mentioning that the Yugoslav Ambassador in the United States, Nikezic, who was formerly stationed in Prague, did not accept the invitation to our reception there and did not participate.

Attendance at our receptions in the United States, Great Britain, and France remained approximately like that of last year. In Washington, no member of the government attended our reception, which is a move construed as being the current discriminatory practice toward the People's Democracies. Otherwise, the attendance of government officials was on about the same level as last year. On the other hand, attendance of unofficial representatives of the people rose so that over-all attendance at our reception was the highest thus far, for a number of years. Chiefs of missions of the United States in some countries for example, in Iran, Australia, Canada, attended our receptions this year for the first time. On the other hand, the attendance of the United States representatives at the reception of our military mission in Berlin was substantially lower compared of representatives of Great Britain and France. In London, our reception was not attended by any member of the government but only the Minister of State, a rank which corresponds to our Deputy Minister, as well as other circles and by the diplomatic corps. Compared to last year, the attendance, as well as the over-all level of those attending, was substantially higher, though it falls far short, particularly in the level of those attending, of the attendance at the receptions of other countries. The attendance of British chiefs of missions in other countries was relatively good. In some countries, for example the Sudan, the attendance of the British ambassador was recorded for the first time. Similarly, in Paris, as in previous year, not a single member of the government attended our reception. According to local custom, members of the cabinet attend only receptions given by the Great Powers. The participation of other officials was lower than that last year and particularly attendance of members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was lower. This move must be regarded as a political measure which can be explained partially by the Czechoslovak ship "LIDICE" incident and partially by the need to prepare for the Geneva Conference. On the other hand, the attendance of French chiefs of mission in other countries was better compared to last year. Thus, for example, our mission in Berlin recorded the attendance of many French representatives; and the French Consul General in Katowice attended for the first time.

Attendance in the neutral European states deteriorated somewhat compared to last year. The reception in Helsinki was attended by two members of the government, which is less than last year. In Vienna, two ministers attended as did a sizeable number of representatives of central offices. In Stockholm, no government member attended our reception since they only attend receptions of the Great Powers, but attendance by representatives of central offices, and economic and cultural circles was better than last year. On the other hand, in Bern, attendance at the reception shows a tendency of constantly deteriorating relations with the People's Democracies. Despite a written promise to attend, sent by one member of the government, who later sent his apologies in writing as well as orally, not a single minister attended our reception. Attendance by members of the cantonal government was better than last year; on the other hand, Swiss military circles and the diplomatic corps were not as well represented as last year.

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Among the NATO countries, the best attendance was registered at Reykjavik, through the presence of the Prime Minister and two ministers and in Ottawa, where, despite the fact that the reception was held on a Saturday, the entire level of the attendance was higher than that of last year. In Copenhagen, the reception was attended by one member of the government, as well as by the Chairman of the Folketing (People's Assembly). Oslo registered similar attendance. In Athens, the government was represented by the State Undersecretary for Communications, although last year a member of the government did attend. At The Hague, no member of the government attended. A similar situation prevailed in Brussels where the participation of ministers at receptions given by foreign nations is not unusual. This cold course, due to deteriorating relations between Czechoslovakia and Belgium, is contrasted by the good attendance at the reception in Leopoldville, where, for the first time since 1948, the Vice-Governor General, as well as other representatives of the Belgium-colonial government attended. In Rome, the systematic non-attendance of members of the Italian government at our receptions was once again confirmed, although it is not possible to consider their failure to attend as an out-and-out discriminatory move since their attendance at other receptions is also quite rare.

In some countries where personal friendly relations of our chief of mission permitted, invitations to our reception were also issued to representatives of the German Federal Republic and to Portugal. According to reports available thus far, the chief of mission of the German Federal Republic attended only at Johannesburg. The Portuguese chief of mission attended only at Montreal and in Cairo. In Addis Ababa, the Portuguese chief of mission did not attend but sent a written congratulatory message to our envoy.

A coldness toward the celebrations of the Czechoslovak national holiday was demonstrated also in countries of the Baghdad Pact. In Karachi, where a one member of the government did attend, attendance by other official representatives of the government was lower compared to last year and had obviously been artificially influenced. Low attendance was registered in Teheran where no member of the government was represented merely by the President of the Senate; and in Ankara, where the non-attendance of a single member of the government can be construed as a discriminatory move and as an overt demonstration of the cold course adopted in Turkish policy towards the countries of the socialist camp. This fact is not in the least affected by the consideration that the participation of the diplomatic corps of the NATO countries was greater in Ankara than in past years.

In Tel Aviv, our reception was attended by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Chairman of the National Assembly, and higher ranking representatives of the central offices. Despite this relatively higher level of attendance, it is not necessary to draw conclusions from it in the light of the current line of Israeli policy and in view of our interests.

The level of attention devoted to our receptions in the Latin American countries is quite variable. Good attendance was registered at La Paz, where the Vice President, the Chairman of the Parliament, one minister and a number of members of parliament attended. Limited attendance in La Paz by other ministers was excused because of a cabinet meeting. Satisfactory participation was also registered at Montevideo with the presence of two members of the government and other officials.

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Because of the status of national mourning, Bogota only sent one member of the government, who did however, for the first time this year, express the greetings of the president and his congratulations. By contrast, low attendance was registered in Buenos Aires where the reception was attended only by the Deputy Minister of Mining and representatives of the provincial government; similarly in Mexico, no member of the government attended.

Attendance of representatives from New Zealand, Australia, and the Union of South Africa was influenced by the current status of their relations with Czechoslovakia and by their policy towards the Socialist camp. In Wellington, the reception was attended by the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs who made a toast to the health of President Novotny. Similarly, in Sidney, attendance was satisfactory with one member of the government attending, as well as other official personalities, with a particular improvement in attendance among the consular corps, where, compared to last year. The chief of mission of the United States, Great Britain, and Canada attended. On the other hand, in Johannesburg, where our reception was held for the first time this year following the transfer of the mission from Capetown, attention is focussed on the very low level of official and unofficial persons attending, which reflects the distrust and caution exercised by all in view of the official policy towards socialist countries. However, Johannesburg was the only foreign post which interestingly enough registered the attendance of the West German consul. Following the reminder received by the local Japanese Embassy regarding last years low attendance, the Czechoslovak diplomatic post in Tokyo registered the attendance of the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs at the reception.

The attendance at the reception organized by our military mission in Berlin is also of interest since the representatives of the British and French occupation authorities participated and remained for a relatively long time, whereas the participation of the Americans was smaller in volume and lower in rank.

Attendance at celebrations of the national holiday cannot be considered as an expression of personal attitude of the chief of mission or the person invited but is considered to be a reflection of mutual relations. The conclusions drawn therefrom are considered by the Minister of Foreign Affairs as a political means for expressing its stand toward incidents of political disinterest or even hostile and discourteous behavior. Attendance of official representatives of governments at receptions celebrating the Czechoslovak national holiday and held at Czechoslovak diplomatic posts abroad is used by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in working out reciprocal measures in the case of all Great Powers and other nations who are members of enemy aggressive pacts, taking into account other political factors and local customs concerning attendance of members of the government at receptions. Also, in the majority of other nations, including Yugoslavia and the countries of Asia and Africa, it is possible to proceed more or less on a reciprocal basis since the lowering of the level of Czechoslovak participation will not strike at non-socialist countries of the peace area, with the exception of Lebanon, where it is possible to create an exception in a politically justified case. Individual reciprocal measures will be taken in the countries of Latin America and toward the neutral countries of Europe.

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From the available reports it is obvious that the celebrations of the Czechoslovak national holiday at Czechoslovak diplomatic posts abroad were conducted in a dignified manner. There were no basic faults or provocations during any of the social events. The selection and number of guests were, for the most part, on the same level as last year; only in some foreign posts was a mild increase in the number of those invited registered in view of the broadening of the diplomatic corps or the expansion of the circle of acquaintances. The cocktail party form of entertainment proved generally satisfactory because it presented the opportunity for lively social contact with the guests. In some countries, where expenditures in foreign exchange for servants were exceedingly high, the food was laid out in part on the tables (buffet style). The majority of the diplomatic posts achieved savings in foreign exchange by purchasing merchandise through the "TUXEX" organization and by carefully arranged self-help in preparing foods, particularly of Czechoslovak specialties, with special emphasis on the participation of the wives of our diplomatic workers. Similarly, in the consumption of beverages certain diplomatic posts achieved further savings by limiting the quantity of heavy alcoholic beverages to the minimum and by increasing the consumption of non-alcoholic beverages. The question of the economic use of representation (entertainment) funds will be taken by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in conjunction with the over-all evaluation of social activities at Czechoslovak diplomatic posts which is currently underway.

Measures Against Uneconomic Procedures at Foreign Diplomatic Posts

(Worked out by the Secretariat of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

(For Information of Chiefs of Missions)

Because incidents of exceedingly irresponsible and uneconomic despatching of documentary material by foreign posts to the central office are constantly increasing, it was necessary to criticize this measure in some posts and to draw the necessary conclusions from it.

Diplomatic posts very frequently send home for destruction such materials, as old brochures, etc. sixty percent of which could perhaps be destroyed in the field and the dispatch of which is in direct contradiction to the destruction manuals. For example, the Czechoslovak Military Mission in Berlin was involved and, particularly, the diplomatic posts in Washington, which actually despatched ten metric quintals of such material by sea courier -- material which was for the most part, absolutely valueless and which could have been destroyed at the post.

The erroneous procedure by the Washington post was investigated, and it was found that the chief of the post did not proceed in a responsible manner and thus caused high losses of foreign exchange to Czechoslovakia. On the basis of this investigation, the chief of the Washington office was disciplined, and the case was turned over to the party organization of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

We emphatically draw attention to the fact that every future case of irresponsible transmission of similar shipments from foreign posts to headquarters will be evaluated in the strictest possible manner, and resulting financial expenditures will be charged against the chief of the diplomatic office involved.

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